DOCUMENT RESUME

BD 134 884

CG 011 059

AUTHOR TITLE Kubala, Albert L.; Christensen, Harold E.
The Effects of Group Competition Upon Student

Performance. Technical Report 68-7.

INSTITUTION

Office of the Chief of Research and Development

(Army), Washington, D.C.

SPONS AGENCY

Human Resources Research Organization, Alexandria,

۷a.

PUB DATE

Jun 68.

CCNTRACT

DA-44-188-ARO-2

NCTE

51p.

EDRS PRICE

MF-\$0.83 HC-\$3.50 Plus Postage.

DESCRIPTORS *Academic Achievement; *Behavior Patterns;

Educational Research; *Group Behavior; *Military Personnel; *Motivation; *Performance Factors; Student

Behavior; Technical Education

ABSTRACT

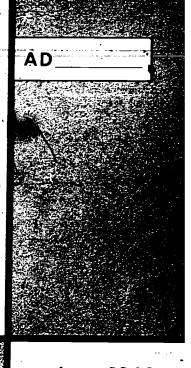
High attrition in technical training courses in Army Service Schools was found to be a major problem during the years 1962 to 1965. Data obtained at the U.S. Army Air Defense School showed that students who volunteered specifically for their training had significantly lower attrition rates than students of comparable apritude who were assigned to the courses without having volunteered. These data were highly suggestive of a motivational factor in the prevalently high attrition rates and indicated a need for improving student motivation. The objective of this Work Sub-Unit was to evaluate group competition as a means of improving or maintaining student motivation. It was hoped that the tendency of American males to compete would lead to strong group identification, and a resultant improvement of performance. Group, rather than individual, competition was thought desirable for two reasons. Pirst, as a member of a group the weaker student has more of an opportunity to win than he would have functioning as an individual. Secondly, it was felt that the competition might lead to the tutoring of weaker students in a group by the stronger students. The results of the research are discussed in relation to the validation of the assessment devices, the factors related to motivation and the implications to be drawn from these experimental findings. (Author/SJL)

Technical Report 68-

The Effects of Group Competition Upon Student Performance

Albert L. Kubala and Harold E. Christensen

HumRRO, Division No



SCOPE OF INTEREST NOTICE

The ERIC Facility has assigned this document for processing to:

CE

In our judgement, this document is also of interest to the clearing-houses noted to the right, Indexing should reflect their special points of view.

US OEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,
EQUICATION & WELFARE
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF
EDUCATION
THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN REPRO
DUCED EXACTLY AS RECEIVED FROM
THE PERSON OR ORGANIZATION ORIGIN
ATING IT POINTS OR VIEW OR OPINIONS THE PERSON ON UNCANIZATION ORIGIN ATING IT POINTS OF VIEW OR OPINIONS STATED OO NOT NECESSARILY REPRE SENT OFFICIAL NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION POSITION OR POLICY. June 1968

Prepared for:

Office, Chief of Research and Development Department of the Army

Contract DA 44 188.ARO 2

This document has been approved for public release and sale; its distribution is unlimited.



The Effects of Group Competition Upon Student Performance

Ьy

Albert L. Kubala and Harold E. Christensen

This document has been approved for public release and sale; its distribution is unlimited-

Prepared for:

Office, Chief of Research and Development
Department of the Army
Contract DA 44-188-ARO-2 (DA Proj 2J024701A712 01)

HumRRO Division No. 5 (Air Defense)
. Fort Bliss, Texas

The George Washington University
HUMAN RESOURCES RESEARCH OFFICE

The Human Resources Research Office is a nongovernmental agency of The George Washington University. The research reported in this Technical Report was conducted under contract with the Department of the Army (DA 44-188-ARO-2). HumRRO's mission for the Department of the Army is to conduct research in the fields of training, motivation, and leadership.

The findings in this report are not to be construed as an official Department of the Army position, unless so designated by other authorized documents.

Published
June 1968
by

The George Washington University
HUMAN RESOURCES RESEARCH OFFICE
300 North Washington Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
Distributed under the authority of the

Distributed under the authority of the Chief of Research and Development Department of the Army Washington, D.C. 20310

FOREWORD

A brief study of causes of attrition in technical training programs was undertaken by HumRRO Division No. 5 (Air Defense) in FY 1964. Preliminary evidence indicated that motivational factors had a relatively strong influence on school achievement. In FY 1965 an Exploratory Study (ES-32) in the area of motivation was initiated. Work Unit SPUR was initiated in FY 1967 to test some promising means of improving or maintaining student motivation during training. This report deals with Work Sub-Unit SPUR I, in which the effects of group competition were explored.

This research was conducted by HumRRO Division No. 5 (Air Defense) under Dr. Robert D. Baldwin, Director of Research. The U.S. Army Air Defense School provided facilities and support for the research. Numerous members of the staff of the Electronics Department of the School provided guidance during planning.

MAJ Alexander D. Bell, Chief of the U.S. Army Air Defense Human Research Unit, served as military coordinator. SP 4 George Nelson of the Human Research Unit was the clerical and statistical assistant.

HumRRO research for the Department of the Army is conducted under Contract DA 44-188-ARO-2 and Army Project 2J024701A71201, Training, Motivation, Leadership Research.

Meredith P. Crawford
Director
Human Resources Research Office





SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

Military Problem

High attrition in technical training courses in Army Service Schools was found to be a major problem during the years 1962 to 1965. Data obtained at the U.S. Army Air Defense School showed that students who volunteered specifically for their training had significantly lower attrition rates than students of comparable aptitude who were assigned to the courses without having volunteered. These data were highly suggestive of a motivational factor in the prevalently high attrition rates and indicated a need for improving student motivation.

Research Objectives

The objective of this Work Sub-Unit was to evaluate group competition as a means of improving or maintaining student motivation. It was hoped that the tendency of American males to compete would lead to strong group identification, and a resultant improvement of performance. Group, rather than individual, competition was thought desirable for two reasons. First, as a member of a group the weaker student has more of an opportunity to win than he would have functioning as an individual. Secondly, it was felt that the competition might lead to the futoring of weaker students in a group by the stronger students.

Method

Students in the experimental classes were divided into four groups, matched on factors that were shown to be related to success in training in previous classes. Groups were paired for competition, and the pairings were changed every two weeks so that every group competed with every other group. The basis for competition was the regularly scheduled weekly examinations. The group in each pairing that failed the fewest exams was declared the winner for that particular competition; thus there were two winning groups during each competition period.

Minor incentives were provided the members of the winning groups. Each individual had a choice of a theater ticket or a ticket good for use at the Post bowling alley. Also, the names of all men in winning groups were published in the Fort Bliss News. News articles were sent to hometown newspapers for all members of the single group that had the best overall record after two competitions, and letters of commendation were sent to the parents of all members of the group that had the best overall record after four competitions.

A questionnaire was developed to measure motivation for training prior to the experiment. Also used was a set of peer ratings that included "Familiarity," "Friendship," "Leadership," "Ability," and "Desire to Succeed in Training." Several means of scoring the peer ratings were tried. The questionnaire and peer ratings were administered to experimental classes just prior to the first written exam and just after the fourth written exam in both experimental classes.

Substantial changes in input in technical training courses during the fall of 1966 resulted in greatly reduced attrition in these courses. These changes made it much more difficult to evaluate a program that was aimed primarily at improving the performance of borderline students. Therefore, the effort was terminated after only two classes had received the experimental treatment.

Results and Discussion

Measurement Devices. Both the questionnaire and the peer rating of "Desire to Succeed in Training" proved to be valid predictors of success in training. In general, the importance of motivation relative to aptitude seemed to be greater in predicting success on laboratory or practical exams than on written exams



Effects of Competition on Performance. It was hypothesized that group competition would improve performance, and that the greatest improvement would be evidenced by the weaker students. Final averages of men in upper and lower thirds of the GT distribution from the experimental classes were compared with equivalent aptitude groups from control classes. The mean score of the lower aptitude experimental group was approximately six points higher than that of the controls, while the means of the two higher aptitude groups differed by less than one point. A comparison between the lower aptitude students in the experimental and in the control groups revealed that 6 of the 20 experimental students (30%) failed to achieve a 70 average in comparison with 39 of the 75 control students (52%). This difference was statistically significant.

The practical exam average was significantly lower than predicted from GT scores in one experimental class, and significantly higher than predicted in the other. This was taken as evidence of differing motivation in the two experimental classes. Furthermore, the classes differed significantly on original questionnaire scores, again indicating a difference in motivation. Since there were some variations in the treatment of the two classes, and since the results in the two were somewhat contradictory, caution must be applied in interpreting the results obtained. However, it does appear that, at least under certain conditions, group competition can influence the performance of lower aptitude students.

Additional Results. It was found that the competition did influence the formation of personal friendships. The number of within-group friendship choices exceeded expectancy in both experimental classes, and was significantly greater than chance in the second class. It was also found that members of losing groups tended to lose confidence in other members of their groups. In winning groups, the number of/within-group choices in "Ability" and "Desire to Succeed in Training" increased between the first and second testing, while in losing groups, the number of within-group choices in these two ratings decreased.

Sociograms indicated that the social structure of the classes was quite well defined even before the first week examination. However, no relationship could be found between personal friendships or clique membership and factors related to success.

Conclusions

The results obtained appear to warrant following conclusions:

- . (1) It is possible, at least under certain conditions, to improve the academic performance of lower aptitude students through the use of group competition.
- (2) It is possible to measure motivation (i.e., desire to succeed in training) by means of either peer ratings or a short, specially designed questionnaire. The questionnaire has the advantage of making it possible to compare one was with another, while the "forced choice" technique used in obtaining the peer ratings makes this impossible, because the raters must make comparisons of specifically named people.
- (3) Placing men in groups for competition does have a significant effect on the formation of friendship choices. However, the effect was not pronounced enough to cause clique formation to center around the competitive groups.
- (4) Neither similar motivation nor similar aptitude is the basis for individual friendship choices. Reasons for friendship choices lay outside those variables measured in this study.

CONTENTS

· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·						Page
Backgro	ound			•		3
					u .	
	Military Problem	· • • • • • •	•••••			3 /
T	Objectives of the Research	• • • • • • •		• • • • • • • •		6
Method					-	•
Method	1					6
	Rationale		,	· • • • • •		['] 6
	Experimental Procedures					: . 7
	Development of Assessment Dev					10.
•	Conduct of the Experiment					13 ,
		. •			•	
Results	and Discussion					15
-	Validation of Assessment Device	es .	49	•		15 /.
	Results in Experimental Classe					
	Differences Between Experimen	tal Classes			• • •	21
	Factors Related to Motivation				• • •	23
•	Implications of This Research .					25 .
	•			• • • • • •	•	,20 .
Literatur	e Cited					29
		, , , , , , , ,			• • •	
Appendic	es •		~			
				, .		
'A	Sample Newspaper Article					' 31
B	Sample Letter to Parents					32
D C	Peer Rating Forms	•••	• • • • • • •	• • • • • •	• • •	33
υ.	Student Attitude Survey			• • • • • •	• : •	36
Figures			•	7		
riguies	• •	•				• 1
1 .	Comparison of Attrition Rates B	etween Vol	unteers		•	
	and Non-Volunteers					4 ^J .
2	Sociogram	• • • • • •			•••	18 '
		-	4	,		
Tables			-		ı	
-1.	Relationship Between Attrition a	nd Course	Length			3
2	Scale of Reward Values for Men					
	Ranked According to Preferen	ce	* 			9
3	Validity Coefficients for Various			i .		•
·	ME Average					15
4′	Partial Correlations of Motivation	on Measure	s With Fir	nal		
	ME Average, Holding GT Cons	tant				16
5	Validity Coefficients for Various	Predictors	s of ME	\		
	Written Examination Average			\mathcal{L} .		16
6	Validity Coefficients for Various			~		
•	Practical Examination Averag	e				18
7 +	Validity Coefficients for Various	Predictors	5			19
					. 🕶	/
		3				,
_	1	Ω		1		·
		×	•	1		vii
	•	*		1		

[ables		Page
8	Mean Final ME Scores for Men in the Upper and Lower	
	Thirds of the GT Distribution in the Experimental and	
	Control Classes	19
9-	Within-Group Nominations in the Experimental Classes	20
10. —	Within-Group Ratings of Ability and Desire in the	- :
	Experimental Classes	20
11	Distribution of Within-Group Friendship Nominations in	, = -
	the Experimental Classes	21
12'	Comparison of Predicted and Obtained Scores in the	-
	Experimental Classes	.22
13	Mean Questionnaire Scores in the Experimental Classes	22
14	Mean Aptitude Scores in the Experimental Classes	22
15	Mean Questionnaire Scores for Men Present at Both	
•	Test Administrations	23
16	Predictive Validities (Correlations) of GT and the	
;	Questionnaire in the Combined Experimental Classes	24
•		_

:

The Effects of Group Competition Upon Student Performance

BACKGROUND

Military Problem

Each year the Army increases its capability through the addition of more varied and more complex hardware. One result of this development is an ever-increasing requirement for highly trained personnel to operate and maintain such equipment. The training necessary to meet these demands involves time-consuming training courses and technically complicated equipment, resulting in substantial expenditures. It has been estimated that electronics training, which constitutes a large portion of the Army's technical training, costs \$50 a man-week.

Attrition, therefore, becomes a very costly factor in such courses, and this is particularly evident in the longer and more expensive training programs, in which the highest attrition rates have been experienced. Data compiled from U.S. Continental Army, Command attrition records (Table 1) show a positive relationship between course length and the proportion of courses with attrition rates of 20% or higher in FY 1965. Although the cause-and-effect relationships are uncertain, it would appear that the courses in which the Army is' making the greatest monttary investment are the ones experiencing the most severe attrition problem.

High attrition results from many causes, only one of which is lack of motivation. Even motivation cannot really be considered a single entity.

Table 1
Relationship Between Attrition

and Course Length^a

Course Length	Number		with 20% or Attrition	
(Weeks)	Courses	Number	Percent	
Under 20 Weeks	v	•	,	
_Under 10	62 .	4	6.5 .	
	. 77	26	33.8	
	26	11	4 2.3	
Average			24.8	
20 Weeks and Over				
20-21	16	11	68.8	
25-29	16	14	87.5	
30 and Over	•16	14	87.5	
Average	•		81.3	

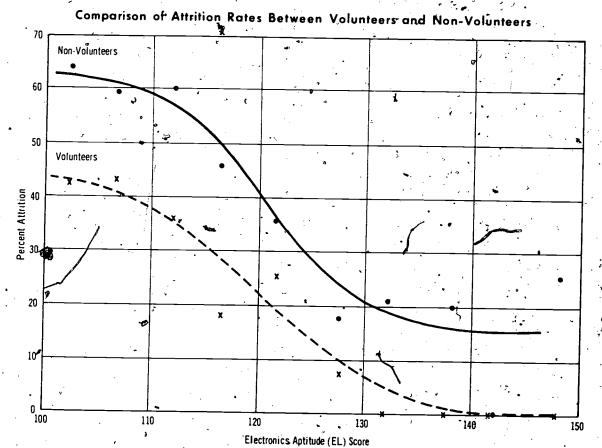
"Material drawn from U.S. Continental Army Command attrition records (1).

really be considered a single entity. Motivation, or the lack thereof, has multiple causation. Therefore, for purposes of this research, motivation is defined as the desire (for whatever reason) to succeed in training. Motivation will be assessed on the basis of self and peer evaluations. Such assessments are subject to considerable error, but they are the only means available for assessing motivation as specific as that desired in this research.

Data from the U.S. Army Air Defense School have shown that motivation, as evidenced by a stated desire for training, plays a significant role in success. A comparison of attrition rates for men who volunteered for training at the Air Defense School and men who were assigned to the courses without having volunteered

Information taken from United States Continental Army Command Letter, File: ATIT-SCH-EA, Subject: Study of Basic Electronics Instruction, HQ, USCONARC, Fort Monroe, Va., 30, January 1964.

is shown in Figure 1. The data are based on a total of 588 privates who entered Hawk missile system maintenance courses. Attrition is shown as a function of aptitude level, as measured by the Electronics aptitude area (EL) score from the Army Classification Battery (ACB). Attrition appears to be between 15 and 20% less for volunteers at any aptitude level. Furthermore, supplementary interview data indicate that not all volunteers have a strong desire to succeed, and that some non-volunteers do. Hence, the difference shown in Figure 1 is probably an underestimate of the true difference between men who, desire the training and men who do not. If so, it would seem that motivation is quite a potent factor in determining success in training.



This study of input in Hawk system maintenance courses at the Air Defense School provided information that was useful in specifying both the origins and the magnitude of the problem. For example, attrition from all causes was averaging close to 40%, only one-third of the students in the average class were volunteers, and some 40% of the students did not meet all of the prerequisites.² The attrition rate alone was sufficient to indicate a problem of major proportions. The small proportion of volunteers indicated that low motivation might be a factor in the

Figure 1

Raw scores from the Army Classification Battery are converted to Army Standard Scores, and then aptitude area composites are formed. EL is the Electronics aptitude area, and is one-third the sum of the Wechanical aptitude score plus two times the Electronics Information score [(MA+2ELI)/3].

The prerequisite most often waived was the successful completion of one year of high school algebra. The prerequisites for assignment to training are set forth in DA Pamphlet 350-10 (2).

failure of a considerable number of students. The fact that such a large proportion of the students did not meet the prerequisites is a further indication of the origin of the problem. Men who neither asked for the training nor were qualified to take it could hardly be expected to have high motivation.

Inquiries were made in an effort to find out why the projection of volunteer students was so low, and why so many men who did not meet the prerequisites had to be assigned. Some highly relevant data were found in a publication prepared by the Office of Personnel Operations (3). In a study of a one-year Army input, it was found that approximately 80% of the RA personnel entered the Army with some type of commitment. However, very few of these commitments were for MOS training in electronics or any other hard skill area. Requirements for training in these areas had to be met largely by assigning men from the 20% who had not received commitments on enlistment, since draftees were not eligible for these longer courses. In general, the uncommitted mannewer pool was of relatively poorer quality. Hence, a considerable shortage of calified personnel for the hard skills resulted. Although these data provided no hints as to why the hard skill areas seemed to lack general appeal to enlistees, they did explain why so many unqualified personnel had to be assigned to training in these areas.

Following this assessment of the personnel situation at the time, it was concluded that two possible approaches to improving motivation might prover fruitful. One approach would be to make every effort during the recruiting and processing phases to locate all interested and qualified personnel and to encourage, them to get into a hard skill area. The other would be to seek means of improving the motivation of men already assigned to training; this approach led to the conceptualization of the research program desoribed in this report.

The overall situation described above was generally true from FY 1963 through FY 1965. However, in the early part of FY 1966 the personnel situations in the Army began to change rapidly. The intensification of the conflict in Vietnam and the resulting increase in draft quotas vastly changed the enlistment picture. During the latter part of FY 1965, Army enlistments were from 10 to 20% below FY 1964 levels. During the last three quarters of FY 1966, enlistments were virtually double what they had been in FY 1965.

Although training quotas were increased, the personnel situation, at least at the Air Defense School, markedly improved. The proportion of volunteer students in Hawk system maintenance courses more than doubled—some classes being composed 100% of volunteers. The percentage of students who did not meet the prerequisites dropped to about 10%, and class averages on ACB scores rose some 7 to 10 points. As was to be expected, attrition rates were affected. In seven classes undergoing training for MOS 22J (Hawk Missile Launcher Mechanic) just prior to the initiation of this study, attrition from all causes was only 15%.

Data from the two experimental classes, which were selected without any knowledge about input quality, further, demonstrate the change that had taken place. Approximately 95% of the students in the experimental classes had volunteered for the training, compared to 19% of the students in the same MOS program for those classes entering into the data in Figure 1. Also, mean EL score in the experimental classes was 117.8 compared to 112.3 for the previously reported classes. It was evident that the need for which Work Unit SPUR had been designed was no longer immediate. Academic attrition had been reduced to such an extent that it would be extremely difficult to demonstrate further



The Office of Personnel Operations (OPO) defines a hard skill as one-requiring a minimum score of 100 in the appropriate aptitude area from the Army Classification Battery, and requiring 16 weeks or more of formal training.

reductions experimentally. Therefore, the decision was made to suspend the Work Unit after two experimental classes had completed the experimental treatment. Although the research was limited, the findings were deemed to be of sufficient value to be worth reporting.

Objectives of the Research

The overall objectives of the research were to determine what motivational factors influence attrition, and to develop methods of maintaining or improving the motivation of students undergoing technical training in Army Service Schools.

The specific purpose in Work Sub-Unit SPUR I was to determine the effectiveness of group competition as a means of improving overall motivation and reducing attition. The research also was designed to answer some additional questions, of both theoretical and practical importance:

- (1) How does motivation change during the course of training in experimental classes compared with regular classes?. \
- (2) How does success or failure affect motivation?
- (3) Is there any relationship between motivation and the formation of personal friendships?
- (4) Does group competition affect the formation of personal friendships?
- (5) How important is motivation relative to aptitude in determining success in training?

METHOD

Rationale

This study was based on the supposition that the majority of men in training have fairly strong needs for achievement, affiliation, and status. In other words, they have strong desires to be respected, accepted, and valued by their fellow students. It was believed that group competition was a suitable vehicle by which the environment could be manipulated to make satisfaction of the trainees' needs more dependent on adequate performance in training.

The basic plan called for dividing classes into groups of approximately qual size and aptitude, and these groups were to compete with one another on regularly scheduled weekly examinations. Token rewards were to be given each member of a winning group. Several reasons can be cited why this approach was believed to be a means of exercising some measure of environmental control:

- (1) Every man is forced to compete. Because competition and the desire to win is important in our society, most people, once in competition, will put forth effort even if the competitive event is one that would not otherwise be interesting to them. It was assumed that a similar situation would exist under group competition in training. Placing every man in a group and holding formal competition among groups makes every man compete, whether it is to his liking or not. It was hoped that the student's natural need to achieve or prove his superiority would make him an active competitor.
- (2) Every man has a real opportunity to win. Competing groups are closely matched on relevant antitudes: each group has an approximately equal chance of winning. In essence, we slower student in a group is competing with the slower students from the other groups, even though winning is determined on the basis of group rather than individual performance. Thus, it was hoped that by matching the groups on aptitude, each student would consider his chances of winning to be good.
- (3) Every man's performance affects the entire group. Under normal circumstances in Army Service Schools, a man's performance has little effect on his classmates. However, in group competition the fortunes of the group depend



almost equally on all members. The unwilling student is likely to be held in contempt by his fellows. Rarely can young men remain impervious to a loss of respect and status from their peers. It was suspected that the majority of men would enter into the spirit of the competition willingly, and that most of those who did not would still conform to the expected role simply to avoid losing the esteem of the group. In other words, it was believed that the man's need for affiliation would force him to play the desired role.

(4) Formal recognition can be provided winning groups. The Army Service School provides an almost ideal situation for enhancing the value of token rewards. No matter how small, rewards can be presented publicly, leaving little doubt as to who received the rewards and why. Formal recognition by authority is generally motivating in itself. The group competition approach was seen as having an additional value in this respect. The weaker student, we would have little chance of recognition as an individual, would have an equal chance as a member of a group.

The effects of competition on the performance of both individuals and groups has been a subject of study for quite some time. As early as 1927, Hurlock (4) demonstrated that competing groups performed better on arithmetic tests than non-competing groups. More recent studies (5, 6, 7) have considered the conditions under which competition does seem to be a motivating force. In general, competition has been found to work best in a "means-independent" situation—one in which the competitors are in no way dependent on each other for the means by which they accomplish their task. In situations where interdependence rather than independence exists, cooperation between individuals or groups seems to increase productivity, while competition tends to hamper productivity.

Competition as a means of motivating men is certainly not new in the military. It has been used informally in many situations, including academic settings, although more frequently in athletics or during major inspections. In HumRRO Task APTITUDE (8) it was found that intersquad competition significantly increased proficiency test scores during Basic Combat Training; the rewards provided winning squads were minimal. Therefore, it is known that competition with minimal rewards did motivate men comparable to those with whom the present research was concerned.

In group competition of the type used for this research, elements of both competition and cooperation exist. The groups are certainly independent; that is, the performance of one group is not dependent in any way on the performance of any other. Therefore, it would be expected that competition would improve performance. Members of a single group are interdependent, but they are not competitors. In fact, cooperation between group members is essential. It was hoped that the better students would recognize this interdependence, and would tutor the weaker students in their group. This alone, it was believed, might be sufficient to ensure that a larger number of the borderline students would successfully complete the training.

Experimental Procedures

Selection of Classes. Original plans called for classes to be selected from those training for MOS 23P (Hawk Fire Control Mechanic), MOS 23R (Hawk Continuous Wave Radar Mechanic), and the F-12 course, which is preparatory to a number of MOSs involved with Fire Distribution Systems. These MOSs were selected because classes normally ranged from 25-40 men, there were usually very few NCOs, and they typically had larger proportions of men in the lower aptitude ranges (where proper motivation might be a more decisive factor in success or failure).

Classes of this size were considered small enough so that the men would get to know each-other quickly, yet large enough so that it should not be difficult to construct four reasonably well matched groups. Small numbers of NCOs were desired for two reasons: First, they typically are well motivated, hence, are virtually never problem students; and second, they are placed in both official and unofficial positions of leadership. The ranking NCO automatically becomes the official class leader, and his juniors typically keep him cognizant of potential academic problems.

Because of changes in school input between the time the research was planned and the time the classes were actually selected, classes from the aforementioned MOSs were not considered to be of optimal composition. Therefore, both experimental classes were selected from those training for MOS 22J (Hawk, Missile Launcher Mechanic). Input to this MOS conformed more closely to that desired at the time of selection.

Group Formation. Men in each of the experimental classes were divided into four matched groups, with matching accomplished in the following manner. A predicted final Missile Electronics (ME) average was computed for each man, on the basis of regression equations derived from data on five classes that had recently completed the ME subcourse. Variables selected for trial included the Electronics (EL) and General Technical (GT) aptitude area scores from the ACB, age, education, and EPT score. Separate equations were computed for volunteers and non-volunteers. In both instances, the final equations included only EL, GT, EPT, and age, education being dropped because its weighting proved to be negligible. The equation for volunteers, using weights for raw scores, was:

Predicted Average = .15 GT + .39 EPT + .09 EL - .12 Age + 38.11.

The equation for non-volunteers was:

Predicted Average = .37 GT + .49 EPT + .04 EL + .58 Age - 0.47.

The multiple regression coefficients for volunteers and non-volunteers were .72 and .76; respectively. Men were placed in groups on the basis of predicted final ME average. The pread between the means was not allowed to be greater than one point, and was taken to distribute borderline cases (predicted final averages of 75 and below) equally among the groups.

The problem of placing NCOs proved to be minor. The first experimental class contained no NCOs. In the second experimental class there were three NCOs; since it was not possible to put an NCO in each of the four groups, it seemed advisable to omit them from the competition.

Men who were recycled into an experimental class proved to be no problem. There was only one recycled student in the first experimental class and none in the second class at the time groups were formed. The one recycled student was placed in the same way as the others, although it was thought that his obtained scores might be somewhat higher than predicted because he had had a part of the training previously. Other recycled students were not put into groups immediately. However, whenever a man was dropped from a class, his place in a group was filled by a recycled student if one was available.

Competition. The basis for competition was the regularly scheduled weekly examination. Competition between each pair of groups was conducted for a two-week period. After each competition period, the groups were paired anew for the following competition period. After three periods, or six weeks, each group had competed against each of the other groups. During the final period of ME,



The EPT, or Electronics Blacement Test, is an Air Defense School test. It was originally designed to predict success in Basic Flectronics, now the ME subcoursely Based on several recent classes, the estimated validity of the EPT for final ME average is about .70.

the two groups with the best overall records were paired and the two groups with the poorest overall records were paired.

The winning group in each pairing was determined by the proportion of tests passed during the competition period. For example, suppose that competition had been between two groups of eight men each that had taken one laboratory exam and two written exams during the period. Each group had thus taken a total of 24 tests. If there were 22 passing scores in one group and 20 in the other, the group with the 22 passing scores was declared the winner for that period. In case of a tie in the proportion-pass criterion, the winner was the group with the higher average during the period. However, one further provision was added—that both groups would be considered winners if both had 100% pass records for this period.

There were two closely related reasons for choosing the proportion-pass criterion over group academic average as, the basis for determining winning groups. First, since one of the main purposes of the research was to find means of reducing attrition, improving the scores of borderline students was considered more important than improving the scores of stronger students. Second, it was hoped that this type of criterion would result in more tutoring of weaker students. Using the proportion-pass criterion, the group's standing is more dependent upon the performance of the borderline student than it is on the average or bright student, both of whom would probably pass nearly all of the exams under any conditions.

Rewards or incentives. It was hoped that the desire to win would be the chief motivating factor in the competition, as rewards of any real material value could not be provided. Since Army regulations place stringent controls on promotions, pay increases, and leave time, it was impossible to offer these more obvious incentives. It was not even possible to arrange a three-day pass because of scheduling difficulties. Furthermore, students had very few work details, no KP duty, and a minimum of inspections, making exemption from such things of little value. Nevertheless, it did seem as though some sort of rewards was a necessary to make the competition more interesting and more meaningful.

In the search for possible rewards, it soon became apparent that various kinds of recognition for accomplishment-which could be given at virtually no cost-would have to be relied on heavily as incentives, as funds available for the purchase of material rewards were very limited. However, there was good evidence that recognition was highly valued, at least by the voung soldker on a first enlistment. This evidence comes from a study by McNeil and Bialek (9). Some of the findings are shown in Table 2. The rewards are ranked in the order in which they were preferred by a group of men undergoing

Scale of Reward Values, for Men in Basic Combat Training,
Ranked According to Preference *

Order of Preference	ltem ° '
. 1.	Special Promotion in Rank
2	Choice of Future Assignment
3	Three Extra Days Leave
1	Three-Day Pass
5	Special Letter of Merit to Parent
6	Post "Soldier-of-the-Month"
7	Commanding Officer's Special Recognition
-8	Engraved Wrist Watch From Commanding Officer
Q	Top Scorer on PT Test Announced to Company
10	Presented Trophy Before Company
11	Receive Letter of Appreciation From Commanding Officer
12	Twenty Dollar Award
13	24-Hour Post Privileges for a Week
14	Battalion Commendation

^{*}Material drawn from Table 2 of HumRRO Technical Report 68-6. Max 1968 (9)

Basic Combat Training. As can be seen, rewards involving individual recognition frequently were more highly valued than other rewards of considerable monetary value. For example, the rewards ranked 5th, 6th, 9th, and 11th all cost virtually nothing, yet were more highly valued than a \$20 award, ranked 12th. From these data, it was concluded that recognition for achievement could be a truly potent incentive in the Army Service School setting.

After consideration of the possibilities, the following list of incentives

was chosen and employed during the experiment:

(1) Each member of a winning group for any of the four competition periods was given a choice of a theater ticket or a ticket good for three lines of bowling.

(2) Abrief article, listing the names of members of winning groups was published in the Fort Bliss News after each competition period.

(3) The names of members of winning groups were posted on the barracks bulletin board.

After two periods of competition, an article was sent to the hometown newspaper of each member of the group having the best overall record during the two periods of competition. (A copy of the article is shown in Appendix A.)

(5) At the end of the competition, a letter was sent to the parents of each member of the group having the best overall record during the four periods of competition. (A copy of this letter is shown in Appendix B.)

Development of Assessment Devices

To obtain information about some of the questions to be answered by this research, it was necessary to develop some measures of motivation and some indices of social structure. The development of each of these measures will be described separately.

Peer Ratings

Originally, four peer ratings were obtained. These were titled "Friendship," "Ability," "Leadership Potential," and "Desire to Succeed in Training." A fifth rating titled "Familiarity" was added after students in earlier classes complained of difficulty in making ratings because they were not familiar with all of the class members.

The nominating technique was used throughout, with the number of men nominated varying with the class size. In classes of 20 to 40 men, students were asked to nominate five men for "Most" and five for "Least" in each rating. With smaller classes, four men were nominated in each category, and with larger classes, six men. Students were not permitted to nominate themselves, but were asked to rate themselves as being in the first, second, third, or fourth quarter of the class on all but the "Familiarity" and "Friendship" ratings. (A copy of the peer rating forms is included in Appendix C.)

Two kinds of information were desired from the peer ratings: It was hoped that the "Desire to Succeed in Training" rating would be a valid measure of motivation, and that the "Friendship" rating would provide insights into class structure. The other ratings were included in an effort to determine how friendship influenced or affected an individual's ratings of his later so on other characteristics. This influence is commonly referred to as the later effect."

Considerable effort was expended trying to find the most predictive scoring scheme for the "Desire" rating. Although none of the more involved methods proved to be more useful than the simplest method, it is felt that they

should be mentioned for the benefit of others who plan to employ peer ratings. In brief, these were:

- (1) An algebraic summation of nominations. To obtain each man's score for a given characteristic, the total number of "Least" nominations he received was subtracted from the total number of "Most" nominations he received. A constant was added to make all scores positive.
- (2) An attempt to eliminate halo effects the "Desire" rating by using partial correlation. A halo effect in the ratings was easily demonstrated. For example, in the first class to be tested, the correlation between "Friendship" rating and "Ability" rating was .30, based on scores derived in the manner described in (1) above. However, when GT was partialled out of the "Ability" score, the correlation of the remainder and "Friendship" rose to .51. In other words, when variance due to ability as measured by GT was removed from the "Ability" rating, a larger proportion of the remaining variance was associated with friendship. An attempt was made to remove the halo effect from the "Desire" rating by partialling out the "Friendship" rating. However, this did not increase the correlation with course grades. This finding was interpreted as meaning that men with a greater desire to succeed were also more likely to be chosen as friends by their peers. If this were the case, the "Friendship" score contained some variance associated with desire to succeed. This variance was removed in the pastialling process along with that associated with friendship, with the result the overall validity for predicting course grades remained unchanged.
- (3) An attempt to eliminate halo from the "Desire" rating by weighting nominations on the basis of friendship choices. It was assumed that a gater who liked a particular individual would tend to overrate him on other characteristics. The opposite was assumed to be true for men disliked by a rater. Hence, it was assumed that the confidence that could be placed in a "Most" or "Least" nomination in "Desire" would vary depending on who made the nomination. A weighting scheme to take like-dislike into account was derived. It is based on the idea that equivalent nominations on both "Friendship" and "Desire" by the same rater are less meaningful than different nominations. The weighting system is shown below:

Friendship Nomination	Desire Nomination	Weighted Desire Nomination
Least	Most Most	3 .
Most	Most	1
Least	None	1
None	None	. 0
Most	None 🏒	- 1
Least	Least	. - 1
None	. · · Least	• <u>-2</u>
Most	L'east .	- 3

An individual's score was the algebraic sum of the weights of the nominations he received. A constant was added to eliminate regative scores. This weighting did little to change the order of the "Desire" scores. The correlations between this score and the unweighted algebraic sum were above 9% in both classes for which the weighted score was computed. Obviously, no gain in validity could be expected.

(4) An attempt to eliminate halo from the "Desire" rating by eliminating unrealistic raters. The accuracy of an individ and's nominations on the "Ability" rating could be determined by comparing his ratings to GT

scores, since the GT score is considered a quite valid measure of overall ability. The 50% of the class whose nominations for ability were most in line with GT were selected, and a new "Desire" score was computed from the ratings of these men. An individuals score was the algebraic sum of the "Most" and "Least" nominations he received from these men, with a constant added to eliminate negative scores. This score proved to be no more predictive than the score based on all nominations in either of the two classes for which it was computed. This result is difficult to interpret. It would appear that a man's capability to judge his peers varies with the characteristic being judged. Hence, a man who is a good judge of ability may not be a good judge of motivation. Also, reducing the number of raters by 50% probably affected the reliability of the ratings adversely.

rating by eliminating unfamiliar ratees. It stands to reason that men are going to be able to make better judgments of men with whom they are familiar than of men with whom they have little familiarity. Examination of the peer, rating data revealed that men who were low in "Familiarity" tended to receive very few nominations on the other scales. It was hypothesized that raters were relutant to nominate a man with whom they were unfamiliar, so lack of either "Most" or "Least" nominations could not be interpreted as meaning the unfamiliar ratee was average for the group on that characteristic. To check this hypothesis, all men who received five more nominations for "Least" than they for "Most" were eliminated. The predictive that dity of the "Desire" rating did increase in the three classes for which alls the fried. This essentially confirmed the hypothesis; that is, the solution of the more familiar persons were less predictive than for the more familiar persons. This finding, of course, did not provide a means of increasing the overall predictive validity of the "Desire" rating, but it did provide a means of judging the confidence that can be placed in any given individual's rating on the scale.

It was mentioned earlier that the peer ratings were needed to obtain information on the social structure of the class. It was prothesized that factors related to success in training would also be a factor in the formation of personal friendships. For example, it was believed that clique (a small group of close personal friends) formation might be related to such things as attitudes toward the Army, attitudes toward training, aptitudes, age, education, or geographical location at home. The social structure of the class was determined by applying the technique described by Clark and McGuire (10) to the "Friendship" ratings.

Student Attitude Survey

A trial questionnaire was constructed that contained questions about interests, desires, intentions, and expectations, with particular reference to training and the Army. Original questions were chosen on the basis of face of validity. Several classes were tested during the development and modification of the questionnaire. During development, items with very little response variation were rewritten and some items were added. After averages from the ME subcourse were available, final modifications were made on the basis of item validities. (A copy of the final form of the questionnaire is shown in Appendix D.)

In scoring the questionnaire, alternatives believed to reflect high motivation were given low scores, and alternatives believed to reflect poor motivation were given high scores for each item. Obviously, lower total scores

were considered as indicative of higher motivation. Details of the scoring procedure are shown in Appendix D.

Behavior Rating

A rating form based on a five-point scale was devised for use by the class leader. Instances of sleeping in class, disciplinary actions, tardiness, and "gigs" at inspections were to be recorded for each man. A new form was to be used each week. The behavior rating was tried in two of the classes used in developing the assessment devices, but it proved to be of no value. Recorded instances of behavior that might be indicative of motivation or a lack of motivation averaged less than one per week per class. The five-point overall rating proved useless also, because only in extreme cases did the class leaders give any man a rating other than average, and this information was already available from the peer ratings and attitude survey. As a result, this rating was discontinued.

Conduct of the Experiment

Administration of the questionnaire and peer ratings took approximately 40 minutes, although one class finished in less than 30. No verbal instructions were given with the questionnaire, although students were reminded to put their names on and were told to raise their hand if they did not understand a question. Additional instructions were given with the peer ratings in an attempt to eliminate halo from the ratings. Basically, these instructions were to caution the raters against rating a man high because they liked him, and vice versa.

The selection of times for administering the tests was considered crucial. It seemed highly desirable that the first testing precede the administration of any school examinations. Otherwise, it was feared that both the ratings and the questionnaire might reflect little more than the results of the school examination. However, it also seemed desirable to give the students ample time to interact and observe each other so that they could have some real basis for making ratings. Therefore, the day before the first school examination was chosen as the best possible date for administering the questionnaire and peer ratings.

There were also good reasons for choosing a day immediately following the fourth written examination for the final test date. Students were not normally dropped from a class until after the fourth week unless they obtained extremely cor ecores on the earlier examinations. Hence, test data for both periods could be obtained on the great majority of students, since class composition remains relatively stable during these weeks.

Testing Schedule

Originally, the peer ratings and the questionnaire were administered at three different times. The first testing was just prior to the first examination, the second testing just after the second written examination, and the final testing just after the fourth written examination. The second testing was eventually dropped as being superfluous. Therefore, the experimental classes were tested only before the first and after the fourth written examination.

Overall Experimental Plan

Although the same general plans were followed in both experimental classes, a number of the details were handled differently. The changes made in handling the second experimental class were attempts to correct what were seen

as problems or errors in handling the first class. The following analysis of procedures presents the essentials and emphasizes the differences in the handling of the two classes:

Item

Instructor Briefing

Student -Briefing Experimental Class 1

Instructor personnel were given complete background briefing and oriented to their role. Briefing was given about three weeks before the class starting date.

On the third day of class a 15-minute briefing was given to the students. They were given competition group assignments, given the terms of the competition, told of the rewards, and given a brief explanation of the purpose. The main purpose, as related to the students, was to provide conveniently sized study groups.

Test Administration

The first testing was just prior to the first class examination, and the second testing was just after the fourth written examination.

Laboratory Assignments Students were permitted. to choose their own partners, although instructors had the option of rearranging partnerships if they felt it would be to the class's advantage.

Incentives

Groups were rewarded after each competition period. HumRRO personnel handled all incentives.

Experimental Class 2

Same as first class.

Essentially the same as the first class, but a much more detailed presentation on purpose. The equality of the groupings was emphasized, and the need for tutoring was brought out. Students were encouraged to ask questions within their groups, and told of their obligation to aid one another.

Same as first class.

Laboratory partnerschips were formed within competition groups. Each group had its own workbench, to some extent isolating each group physically from the others.

Incentives were the same except that instructor personnel (normally the chief instructor) handled incentives whenever possible.

The change in the student briefing was designed to make the stated purpose seem more plausible. The change in laboratory assignment procedures was made in the hope of building up greater group identification. Having the instructors handle the entire incentive program was done to create the impression that the competition was basically an Army, rather than a Humrro, project. Subjectively, these changes seemed to make a difference in the overall class attitude toward the experiment. The first class seemed to feel that the competition experiment was a separate affair run by Humrro that merely paralleled the training. This was attested to when students came to the Humrro office in hopes of getting theater tickets a day early for a particular movie. In the second class, all questions and requests were directed to the school's instructional staff. It seemed, too, that the instructional staff became more personally involved and took a greater interest in the second class, because they handled most of the details.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Validation of Assessment Devices

It was hoped that the peer rating of "Desire to Succeed in Training" and the questionnaire data would provide the means of assessing student motivation that was needed to answer several of the questions posed in this research. Validity data on these two measures, along with the "Ability" rating and two ACB scores for the pre-experimental classes are presented in Table 3. The signs of the correlations involving the questionnaire have been reversed, in effect reversing the direction of scoring of the questionnaire, so that all correlations in the table would follow the same pattern in showing relationship—that is, higher motivation and higher aptitude associated with higher achievement.

The classes represented in this table were those employed in developing the questionnaire and peer ratings used for the experimental classes. Since the peer ratings were administered in the same manner, the scores in all classes are comparable. However, only the fourth class received the questionnaire in the final form, so, the correlations for the questionnaire are not strictly comparable. As a final check on the questionnaire, one additional class was administered the questionnaire in its final form, and the obtained validity with ME average was .49.

It can be noted that the correlation of GT with final ME average is considerably higher than the correlation between EL and ME average in all but the first

Table 3

Validity Coefficients for Various Predictors
of Final ME Average^{n, b}

Pre-experi- mental Class		EŲ.	" GT	Ability Rating	Desire Rating	Question- naire
\	23	.52**	.53**	·.56··	.60**	. 19**
13	. 25	.50**	.81**	.80**	.71**	.56**
C	21	1717	.82**	.69**	151 * *	.43*
D	37	47**	.62**	7.6**	~\ \ _\\\	.60**°

[&]quot;ME, Missile Electronics subcourse; EL, Electronics aptitude area scores; GT, General Technical aptitude area scores.

° V 36.

p indicates p = .05, and $\frac{1}{2}$ indicates p = .01, employing a one-tailed test.

class. This is undoubtedly due, at least in part, to the fact that the EL score is much more restricted in range, since these men were selected for training on the basis of EL scores. All men had EL scores of 100 or higher, while GT scores ranged down to 71, with a considerable proportion being under 100. This finding led to the conclusion that GT should be used as a control for aptitude in

Partial Correlations of Motivation
Measures With Finol ME Average,
Holding GT Constant

Pre-exp e ri-		• Me	asure
mental Class	1	Desire Rating	Question-
Ą	23	.47*	42*
В -	25	.62**	.35*/
, C	24	.11	.35*/ .35** .63***
D	37	.49** _	63** ^b

* indicates p <.05, and ** indicates p <.01, employing alone-tailed test.
b N = 36.

Overall comparisons of the predictors with the two different types of examinations that enter into final ME average are presented in Tables 5 and 6. The written examinations are objectively scored multiple-choice exams, while the practical examinations given in the laboratory have a considerable element of subjectivity in their scoring. The reliability of the written exams

this research since the students were relatively homogeneous with respect to the EL score, which is the official prerequisite for the course.

Partial correlations of the motivation measures with final ME average with GT held constant are shown in Table 4. In other words, these are the correlations that would be expected between the motivation measures and ME average if everyone in the class had the same GT score. All but one of the correlations is significant at the .05 level, employing a one-tailed test. Therefore, it must be concluded that motivation, as measured by the peer rating of "Desire" and the questionnaire, is a significant factor in success in ME.

Table 5

Validity Coefficients for Various Predictors of ME Written Examination Average a

			- Marie	×	
Class	N	cŤ	Ability Rating	Desire Rating	Question- naire
A	23	.57*.*	. 60** (.65**	.53**
В 🤊	25	.81**	.60** \ .79**	.73**	.61**
C.	4-	.76**	.46*	.36*	.22
Ð	37	.59**	.70**	.53**	.64**b

^{*} indicates $p \le .05$, and ** indicates $p \le .01$, employing a one-tailed test. $^{\rm b} N = 36$.

Table 6

Validity Coefficients for Various Predictors

of ME Practical Examination Average a

			4		
184	\	GT ,	Ability Rating	Desire " Rating	Question- naire
1	23	.22	.26	30	.32
B (25	.55	.67**	.59**	.42*
	24	.62 *	.56**	.47**	.63**
)	37	.5185*	<u>"</u> " .73**	.47**	.53**b
	184 1 3 3	N 23 B 25 C 24	A 23 .22 B 25 .55 C 24 .62	A 23 .22 .26	A 23 .22 .2630 B 25 .5567** .59** C 24 .6256** .47** D 37 .5173** .47**

 5 * indicate's $p(\cdot,05)$ and ** indicates $p(\cdot,01)$ employing a one-tailed test.

36

is considerably higher. Based on odd-numbered tests versus even-numbered tests, the estimated reliability of the written exams is about '.90 while the estimated reliability of the practical is about '.60. Obtained reliability, of course, varied from class to class.

In general, all of the predictors have higher correlations with the written exam average than with the practical exam average.

This, of course, would be expected from the reliability data. However, there is a slight tendency for the motivation measures to be more consistent than GT with respect to the two types of examinations. For example, GT has higher correlations with written exam average than does the questionnaire in three of the four classes, while the questionnaire is more highly correlated with practical exam average in three of the four classes. This might have been expected. Lecture material is presented in a highly academic manner, and a high degree of verbal and numerical skills would be expected to be involved in the learning process. However, the requirements for these skills are probably much lower in the laboratory. The persistent and diligent worker with minimal aptitudes is likely to do well in the practical exams. Hence, motivation might be expected to be of greater relative importance than aptitude in the laboratory. These observations led to the conclusion that these two types of exams should be treated separately, at least for the time being.

Sociograms were constructed for three of the four classes tested during the development) of the peer ratings and questionnaire. One sociogram was constructed from the "Friendship" ratings obtained prior to any tests, and one was constructed from the ratings obtained following the fourth written examination. One example of a sociogram is shown as Figure 2. The numbers along the left and across the top indicate each man's alphabetical position within the class. The sequence has been rearranged so that small groups of mutual friends, or cliques, appear together. Reading across the page are the choices made by an individual, and reading down the page are the nominations received by the individual.

The keys for the choices, as given in the figure, may be interpreted as follows:

- (1) indicates mutual "Most" nominations. Man number 12 gave man 29 a "Most" nomination and man 29 gave man 12 a "Most" nomination.
- (2) \rightleftharpoons indicates individual positive choices. Man number, 6 gave a "Most" nomination to man 12, but man 12 gave neither a "Most" nor a "Least" to man 6.
- (3) shows mutual "Least" nominations. Man number 15 gave a "Least" nomination to man 30 and also received a "Least" from him.
- (4) shows individual "Least" choices. Man number 19 gave a "Least" nomination to man 27, but he received neither a "Least" nor a "Most" from man 27.

Using the keys, Figure 2 shows that man number 29 gave "Most" nominations to men 12, 3, 19, 30, and 23; he gave "Least" nominations to men 15, 10, 1, 28, 26, and 24. He received "Most" nominations from men 12, 3, 19, 30, 20, and 2; and he received "Least" nominations from men 1, 5, 21, 8, and 24.

The key for opposite choices is also shown:

(1) and show opposite choices. For example, man number 3 gave a "Most" nomination to man 11, but man 11 gave man 3 a "Least" nomination.

The small friendship groups, or cliques, are relatively well formed. That is, the composition of the groups is relatively easy to determine, although there seems to be some overlap between the fringe members of the two large cliques in the upper left-hand corner. However, no meaningful relationships could be found between these small social groupings and factors related to success in traiming. On the first rating, cliques tended to be composed of men who had taken BCT at the same Center. However, even this relationship tended to disappear on the fourth week sociogram. Also, there was a tendency for NCOs to form a separate clique within a class. This was expected, since the NCOs are generally older, many are married and living off post, and they are separated from the typical student by rank and privilege.



25

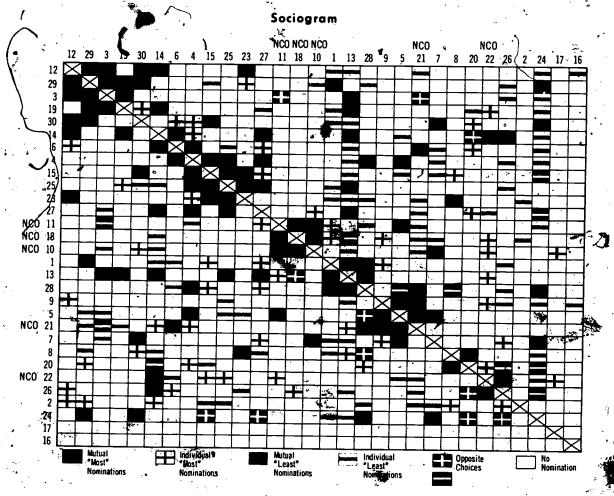


Figure 2

Men within cliques varied considerably with respect to aptitude scores, "Desire" scores, and questionnaire scores. There were no "good" cliques or "bad" eliques. In general, the largest clique (upper left-hand corner of Figure 2) was composed of somewhat superior men, but membership in the clique was not highly predictive of success. The clique composed of the men numbered 1, 13, and 28 was probably the most successful clique. Number 13, who was widely disliked (as can be seen from the sociogram), finished ME with an average over 99. He was highly rated in "Ability" and "Desire," however.

Similarly, findings from a study of the two other classes for which sociograms were made also failed to show any promising relationships between social structure and the school performance or motivation of the students.

Results in Experimental Classes

Validity of Predictors

The validities of the predictors obtained in the two experimental classes are shown in Table 7. In general, these validities are very similar to those obtained in previously tested classes, although the validities of the "Desire" rating tend to represent the highest of the coefficients obtained with that measure. The contrast between GT and the questionnaire is even more striking than in the

Table 7

Validity Coefficients for Various Predictors **

ME Averages	•		tal Class I : 25)		Experimental Class 2 (N = 36)			1
	GT ·	Ability Rating	Desire Rating	Question- *	СT	Ability	Desire Rating	Question- naire
Final WE	.67**	.81**	.74**	.74**	.63**b	.57**	.35*	.50**
ME Written Test	.70**	.82**	.78**	.54**	.69**	.62**	41*	48**
ME Practical Test,	.52**	-68**	.56**	.62**	:45**	.49**	.29	.45**

^{*} indicates p < .05, and ** indicates p < .01, employing a one-tailed test.

non-experimental classes. GT had considerably lower validities for the practical exams than for the written exams, while the validities for the questionnaire were roughly equal for both types. This finding essentially confirms the roposition that the relative importance of aptitude and motivation varies with the type of examination given.

Effect of Competition on Performance

It was hypothesized that group competition would improve performance, and that the greatest improvement would be evidenced by the weaker students. Since only two classes received the experimental treatment, it was not possible to fully test this hypothesis. Nevertheless, it was felt that the experimental classes should be compared to classes that had not received the experimental treatment. The control group selected was comprised of the nine classes in, MOS 22J that had initiated training between the starting dates of the two experimental classes.

Both the experimental and the control classes were split approximately into thirds on the basis of the combined GT distribution, and the upper and lower groups were selected for comparison. The mean final ME scores for each of the groups are shown in Table 8. As can be seen, the mean scores of the two higher aptitude groups are virtually identical, while the mean of the lower aptitude experimental group is some six points higher than that of the controls.

A comparison was made of the number of lower aptitude students in the two groups who had ME averages of less than 70. Six of

Mean Final ME Scores for Men in the Upper and Lower Thirds of the GT Distribution in the Experimental and Control Classes

GT Distribution	Experimental (1) = 20)	Control (<i>N</i> = 75)
Lower third		ani.
(GT≤107)	75.4	69.2
Upper third (GT ≥ 120)	90.8	90.5

the 20 experimental students (30%) did not achieve a 70 average, in comparison with 39 of the 75 control students (52%). Although this difference was statistically significant at the .05 level, there were not sufficient data to obtain an accurate estimate of the attrition level that would be expected if the experimental technique was routinely used by a school.

b N = 35.

Relationships Between Success and Group Identification

It was hoped that members would identify with their competition group, and enter wholeheartedly into the spirit of competition. A means of determining how closely a man identified with other members of his competition group lay in the peer ratings. It was felt that any strong feelings toward other members, either positive or negative, represented a type of identification. Hence, either "Most" or "Least" nominations for other group members were accepted as indications of identification.

The within-group nominations of the experimental classes are shown in Table 9. Nominations on all five peer ratings were counted. In general, the number of within-group nominations increased on the second testing, indicating a higher degree of within-group feeling after four weeks in class.

However, the feelings were not all positive. Table 10 shows changes in nominations between first and second testings on "Ability" and "Desire" ratings, which were chosen for this comparison because they should reflect the amount

Totale 9
Within-Group Nominations in the Experimental Classes

	Expe	rimental Cl	ass I	- Exp	erimental C	lass 2
Group	lsı Test	2d Test	Difference	lst Test	2d Test	Difference
ı	59	64	+5	95	132	+37
II	_ 66	50	-16	64	71	+7
Ш	28	53	+25	. 63	72	+9 .
IV ,	51 (76	+25	82	96	+14
Total	201	243	+39	304	37.1	+67

Table 10
Within-Group Ratings of Ability and Desire in the Experimental Classes

Group Vote	Experimental Class 1				Experimental Class 2					
	Competition Results		İst	2d	Net Dif-	Competition Results 4		ist	2d	Net Dif-
	Wins	Losses	Test	. Test	ference	Wins	Losses	Test	Test	ference
i .	0	4			-13	2	1			+13
Positive			19	1				27	42	
Negative		•	5	13	•			10	12	
П	2	2			-8	. 1	2			-3
Positive			. 17	1 0			٠	16	14	
Negative			10	10				9	10	
II	2 -	3			+ 1	0	3			- 14
Positive			7.	15				17	9	
Negative			-1	8				7	13	*
$\mathbf{v} \rightarrow \mathbf{v}$	1	0			•6	3	. 0			+8
Positive			11	18	•			16	21	
Negative.			11	12	*			15	12	
Total					-11			•		+-1

[&]quot;Each group had one tie



of confidence the men have in others in their own group. In both classes, the group that lost most consistently shows the greatest negative change, while the group that won most consistently shows the greatest positive change in one class and the second most in the other class.¹ Although the amount of change is actually very small, the total negative change of 11 nominations for Experimental Class 1 seems indicative of a general loss of confidence of group members in their groups. The slight positive change shown for Experimental Class 2 would indicate little change between the two testings in the second experimental class.

Table 11 presents data on . positive nominations for the "Friendship" rating for each class for both test administrations. The "Expected Number" represents the number of men that would be expected to nominate 0, 1, and 2 or more men in their own competition group if all nominations were made randomly.2 The "Observed Number" is the actual number of men who nominated the indicated number of men in their own competition group. The total number of withingroup positive nominations exceeded expectancy for all four test administrations, but the difference was statistically significant only in Experimental Class 2. At least in the second

Table 11
Distribution of Within-Group Friendship
Nominations in the Experimental Classes

	lst Test			. 2d Test		
Experimental Class	0	1.	2 or More	0	1	2 or More
1.	•					·
Expected Number Observed Number	7.0	11.0	6.1	6.1	10.9	7.0
Observed Number	4/	11	9	4	12	8
	· ()	$c^2 = 2.7$	' 3,	(_X	$r^2 = 0.99$	9.
•	not	signifi	cant)	not	signifi	cant)
2		_				•
Expected Number	9.5	14.5	9.0	9.0	13.7	8.3
Observed Number	6	٠9	18	4	10	17
	$(\chi^2 = 1)$	2.34,	o<.01)	$(\chi^2 = 1)$	2:97,	o<.01)

class, it appears that the artificial groupings did have an effect on personal friendship formation, and that men did tend to identify with their group.

The same tendency observed in the control classes for men from the same BCT Center to form into cliques was noted. There was also some tendency for cliques to reflect the competition groups, as might have been suspected from the "Friendship" vote reported in Table 11. However, there seemed to be no additional useful information. No relationship between social structure, GT score; motivation scores, or course grades was observed. This, of course, was consistent with the findings in previous classes.

Differences Between Experimental Classes

Differences in the treatment of the two experimental classes have already been discussed to some extent. It is impossible to determine exactly what effect these differences had on the classes, but the classes varied in several respects, suggesting that differences in treatment may have been important.

For the second experimental class, wins and losses are shown for only three periods because in one period both sets of competing groups tied in the number of tests failed. Since academic averages of the tieing groups were within one point of one another, all groups were declared winners and all men received the rewards for that period. Hence, Group IV in one sense actually won all four competitions, and Group III won once.

'Although the total number of men in competition groups in Experimental Class 1 did not change between the two test administrations, the total number of men in the class did change because of transfers in and out of the class. Since every man's name appeared on the peer rating forms, nominations for men not in groups had to be taken into account in computing the expectancies. Therefore, the expected values differ for Experimental Class 1 despite the fact that the number of men in competition groups did not change.

Table 12

Comparison of Predicted and Obtained Scores
in the Experimental Classes

		_	_		,
-	Average Score	Obtained	Predicted	Difference	t Value
Ех	perimental Class	1			
	Final	81.1	·\ 84.9	-3.8	NS
	Written	85.4	85.0	+0.4	NS
	Practical	73.0	83.9	-11.0	4.40 p<.01
Exp	perimental Class	2 .		•	•
-	Final	8 5.7	82.8	+2.9	NS
1	Written	80.9	82.3	-1.4	NS
i	Practical	91.2	81.5	+9.7	4.61 p<.01

For example, the difference between practical exam averages of the two classes is quite striking. Course grade data are presented in Table 12. Predicted scores for each man in each class for each type of exam were computed from prediction equations based on GT (the equations were based on data from the nine classes in MOS 22J that initiated training in the interval between the two experimental classes).

Both experimental classes performed about as expected on the written exams. However, Experimental Class 1 performance was significantly lower on the practical exams than was predicted, while the second class performed significantly higher than predicted. This result is interesting if the earlier speculation concerning the relationship of motivation and practical exam scores is valid. That is, if practical exam scores actually reflect motivation better than written exam scores, it would indicate that the second class had considerably higher motivation than the first class.

Scores from the questionnaire certainly indicate that this is true. Mean scores on the questionnaire are shown in Table 13: Scores for the first class are significantly higher (indicating poorer motivation) than for the second class for both test administrations. Since the questionnaire scores are believed

Table 13

Mean Questionnaire Scores in the Experimental Classes

Test Period	Experimental Class 1	Experimental Class 2	Difference	Significance
lst .	$\frac{29.4}{(N=25)}$	25.2 (N = 36)	4.2	t = 2.03 p < .05
. 2d	$\begin{array}{c} 29.2 \\ (N=23) \end{array}$	23.8 (N = 33)	5.4	t = 4.61 $p < .01$

to be valid reflections of motivation, it seems that the second class had higher motivation both at the beginning and at the end of four weeks of training.

Mean Aptitude Scores
in the Experimental Classes

Aptitude Area	Experimental Class 1 (N=26)	Experimental Class 2 (N=35)		Difference
GT	116.1	111.7		4.4
EL.	118.4	117.5	•	0,9

Furthermore, there is good evidence that these differences are not merely reflections of higher aptitude, and hence, higher motivation for the subject. Aptitude scores for the two classes are shown in Table 14. Although Experimental Class 1 had higher means on both aptitude measures, neither of the differences in means is significant. Therefore, a real difference in

motivation seems to be the only plausible explanation for the differences in questionnaire scores between the two classes.

There is some slight evidence that differences in motivation between the classes became even more pronounced with time. Mean questionnaire scores

for those men who were pressent at both administrations of the questionnaire are presented in Table 15. The first class had a slightly worse score on the second administration, while the second class had a slightly better score. (As discussed earlier, the scoring method used considers lower scores indicative of higher motivation.) For neither is the difference between the means of the two administrations significant. However, the difference between

Table 15

Meon Questionnoire Scores for Men

Present at Both Pest Administrations

Comparison	lst Test	2d Test	Difference	Significance
Experimental Class 1 (N = 23)	28.4	29.2	.8	NS
Experimental Class 2 (N = 30)	24.6	24.0	-0.6	ŅS
Difference Between Classes	a •		1.4.	t = 1.84 p < .10

the differences approaches significance (t = 1.84, p < .10). Although not conclusive, this suggests that time may have had a differential effect on the motivation of the two classes.

The motivation of the two classes apparently differed at the beginning of training, as indicated by the significant difference between the original means of the questionpaire scores (see Table 13). Motivation also tended to decrease in the first class while it increased in the second class (see Table 15). These data, coupled with the data on changes in "Friendship" choices (see Table 11), suggest a relatively greater motivation problem in Experimental Class 1: Certainly if practical exam grades reflect motivation as hypothesized earlier, the two classes appear to be quite different. Because these differences were evident at the end of the first week, it is difficult to attribute them to the variation in treatment of the two classes. However, there is one difference between the classes that could conceivably account for the differences in motivation. The second class contained three NCOs. All three were apparently well motivated, and the senior NCO served as the class leader. The first class had no NCOs and a poorly motivated private for a class leader. The effect of leadership on class motivation is an unknown, but there is little else to account for the differences between the classes.

Factors Related to Motivation

Several questions which this research was designed to answer were listed in the discussion of objectives. Data relevant to some of these have already been discussed. However, for purposes of clarity, each question will be listed and relevant data will be mentioned again.

(1) How does motivation change during the course of training in experimental classes compared with regular classes?

Changes in motivation were assessed by comparing changes in questionnaire scores between the first and second administrations. When the mean change in the experimental classes was compared with the mean change in the control classes, a t of 0.45 was obtained. Although the changes in scores were in the anticipated direction, that is, the experimentals maintained their motivation better than the controls, the t value does not approach significance. Therefore, it must be concluded that the addition of group competition alone did not aid significantly in maintaining class motivation. (2) How does success or failure affect motivation?

It was assumed that early success or early failure in training might have an effect on the attitude of the affected students. For analysis on this point, students in both experimental and control classes were divided into three groups. The failure group consisted of all students who failed two exams or more during the first four weeks, or failed one exam and had a current average of 75 or lower. A success group was made up of students who had never failed an exam and had an average of 85 or higher. The remainder of the students formed the third group. The success group and failure group were compared with respect to changes in questionnaire score from first to second administrations. It was predicted that the success group would have a more favorable change in motivation than the failure group. A t value of 1.52, p < .10 for a one-tailed test, was obtained in this comparison. Although this is not an acceptable level of significance, it is nevertheless suggestive. Assuming that additional data would confirm the hypothesis, the results suggest that easier exams might be called for very early in the training, because students who are successful early in training appear to maintain their motivation somewhat better than students who fail. Perhaps those students who experience success gain confidence, and are more willing to put forth the effort that is required in later stages of training.

(3) Is there any relationship between motivation and the formation of personal friendships?

Careful study of the data from the "Friendship" rating in several classes failed to show any effects related to motivation. Mutual friendship choices occurred as frequently between a highly motivated and a poorly motivated individual as they did between individuals of like motivation. In the control classes no relationship between friendship choices and any other known factor was observed. Apparently, choices were based on characteristics not studied in this research.

- (4) Does group competition affect the formation of personal friendships?

 Data already presented indicate an affirmative answer. In both of the experimental classes, the proportion of within-group friendship choices exceeded chance. Since groups were formed solely on the basis of aptitude variables, with aptitude being equally distributed between the groups, no other explanation for the high frequency of within-group choices seems plausible. Because the grouping did tend to force some familiarity, especially in the second experimental class where laboratory assignments were made by group, the opportunity for friendships to emerge within groups was probably increased.
- (5) How important is motivation relative to aptitude in determining success in training?

Table 16

Predictive Validities (Correlations) of GT and the Questionnaire in the Combined Experimental Classes

Averages	GT 4	Questionnaire		
Final ME	.61	.63		
Written	.70	.52		
Practical	.31	.58		

When students have been preselected for training based on aptitude, the data presented so far suggest that motivation is of greater relative importance to success in the laboratory, while aptitude is of greater relative importance in the classroom. The data in Table 16, based on a combination of the two experimental classes, illustrate this. It appears from the table that both are equally important in overall success as indicated by the correlations with final ME average.

However, data from previous classes have generally shown that GT is a somewhat better predictor of final average than the questionnaire. In any event, both have been shown to be of too great a significance for either to be neglected.

Implications of This Research

Because only two classes received the experimental treatment, little can be said about the usefulness of group competition as a dependable means of improving class motivation. Moreover, the results obtained indicate that group competition by itself may not be uniformly effective in improving motivation. On the whole, results obtained in improving performance of lower aptitude students through the use of group competition were encouraging. Differences between the experimental classes in both composition and experimental treatment make the results difficult to interpret.

The questionnaire data available from all of the classes (experimental and non-experimental) tested suggest that variation in individuals' motivation for training can be assessed with a relatively short questionnaire. Peer ratings also can be used, but unfortunately, the "forced choice" technique required to obtain the ratings makes it impossible to compare one group to another. Either method works reasonably well in determining the rank order within a given group.

The questionnaire may have several possible uses outside of evaluating means of improving motivation. For example, if it were administered routinely to students, those students who are likely to be problems might be identified early in the course. Actually, the questionnaire could have been very useful for this purpose in the classes tested. Data from the last four classes, including the experimental classes, were examined to test this possiblity. A cutting score of 35 was chosen, which selected the 15% with the poorest scores from the combined classes. Men who were predicted to fail on the basis of GT scores were eliminated, as were men who were predicted to have final ME scores of 85 or higher. The remaining group of ten men were those who indicated a motivation problem on their questionnaires, and whose GT scores were such that they might have difficulty in passing without some sustained effort. Five of these ten men actually did fail. Since the overall attrition rate in these classes was only 12 percent, the questionnaire appears to be quite an effective means of locating problem students.

Problem classes might also be identified if generally poor scores are obtained. In some instances, it might even be possible to correct the problem. At least, some serious attempts to identify the problem could be made.

Numerous findings suggest possible avenues for additional research in this area. The effect of the rank and general attitude of the class leader has never been investigated. It was hypothesized earlier that differences in the class leaders might have been a factor in the differences observed in the motivation of the two experimental classes. This factor, and the effects of having higher and lower proportions of NCOs in a class seem worthy of study.

Further study of the motivating effects of success and failure seems warranted. Reinforcement during early trials has always been considered critical in learning studies, and may well be so in Army Service Schools. The effects of making exams more difficult or less difficult during the first weeks of training could be studied easily. It is hypothesized that classes given the easier exams will be more highly motivated and perform better during the



latter part of the training. The same effect might be accomplished by providing more intensive training or by extending the time in which early interial is covered, if altering examinations is not desirable.

The possibility of forming competition groups based partly on data from the peer ratings should be considered. Compatibility could be built into the original groups and gross incompatibility of members could be avoided as much as possible. Such groups might prove to be more cohesive and cooperative than groups chosen simply on the basis of aptitudes. Consideration should also be given to using sociometric data in the selection of assistants for the class leader. Popular, rather than arbitrarily chosen, assistants might result in better morale and discipline.

LITERATURE CITED AND APPENDICES

LITERATURE CITED

- 1. United States Continental Army Command. Education and Training: Fiscal Year 1964 Course Attrition of Army Service Schools Under Supervision of USCONARC, USCONARC Pamphlet No. 350-5, HQ, USCONARC, Fort Monroe, Va., October 1964.
- 2. Department of the Army. U.S. Army Formal Schools Catalog, Army pamphlet No. 350-10, Washington, February 1965.
- .3. Office of Personnel Operations. Analysis of Hard Skill Limitations, Standards and Systems Office, Office of Personnel Operations, Washington, March 1964.
- 4. Hurlock, E.B. "The Use of Group Rivalry as an Incentive," J. Abnorm. Soc. Psychol., vol. 22, 1927, pp. 278-290.
- 5. Bruning, James L., Sommer, David K., and Jones, Bill R. "The Motivational Effects of Cooperation and Competition in the Means-Independent Situation," J. Soc. Psychol., vol. 68, Second Half, April 1966, pp. 269-274.
- 6. Raven, Bertram H., and Eachus, H. Todd. "Cooperation and Competition in Means-Interdependent Triads," J. Abnorm. Soc. Psychol., vol. 67, no. 4, October 1963, pp. 807-316.
- 7. Hammons, L.K., and Goldman, M. "Competition and Non-Competition and its Relationship to Individual and Group Productivity," Sociometry, vol. 24, 1961, pp. 46-60.
- 8. Findlay, Donald C., Matyas, Seymour M., and Rogge, Hermann III. Training Achievement in Basic Combat Squads With Controlled Aptitude, HumRRO Technical Report 16, January 1955.
- 9. Bialek, Hilton, and McNeil, Michael. Preliminary Study of Motivation and Incentives in Basic Combat Training, HumRRO Technical Report 68-6, May 1968.
- Clark, Rodney A., and McGuire, Carson. "Sociographic Analysis of Sociometric Valuations," Child Developm. vol. 23, no. 2, June 1952, pp. 129-140.



Appendix A

SAMPLE NEWSPAPER ARTICLE

Participates in Army Study

	ની
is a member of a group that has been cited for academic achievement at the	•
U.S. Army Air Defense School, Fort Bliss, Texas,	
son of,	
is a member of a group of trainees undergoing electronics training in air	
defense artillery.	
In conjunction with their specialized training, these men are participating	
n a study being conducted by the Human Resources Research Office (HumRRO).	
The class is divided into four groups, each composed of men whose aptitudes	
and past experience are closely balanced. Men within a group have been assigned	
he job of assisting any man in their group who is having difficulty with some	
portion of the material.	•
Every two weeks the four groups are paired and compete with each other.	•
The group in each pairing that excels in academic performance is declared the	
vinner. Members of the two winning groups are presented such token awards	.
s theater passes or tickets to local bowling lanes.	
group has yet to be beaten in this	
cademic competition.	,
a nagaga a a awawa u u anga a na awau aga a a a ar i i i i na a a a u wi au u u a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a	
Hometown Newspaper:	
Name of Paper	
CityState	

Appendix B

SAMPLE LETTER TO PARENTS



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

U.S. ARMY AIR DEFENSE HUMAN RESEARCH UNIT

U.S. CONTINENTAL ARMY COMMAND

FORT BLISS, TEXAS 79916

IN REPLY REFER TO ATHRD

8 September 1966

Mr. and Mrs. John Doe 1006 Main Street Middletown, U.S.A.

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Doe:

This letter comes to you from the Air Defense Human Research Unit, to inform you of the outstanding achievement of your son, PVT John Doe, Jr., and the members of his group in the classroom portion of his training in Missile Electronics at the Air Defense School here at Fort Bliss.

We are investigating the effects of dividing the men into small groups within a class. The men who understand some portion of the material covered in a class are supposed to aid those in their group having difficulty. To add interest, the groups are paired and compete with each other on a bi-weekly basis. The group having the fewest exam failures wins the competition.

The group in which your son was a member was a winner in each competition period, and was awarded passes to local theaters. A record of four wins in four tries is a real credit to your son and his group.

Sincerely,

Z

ALEXANDER D. BELL

Major, Artillery
Chief

Appendix C

PEER RATING FORMS

Familiarity Rating

Before beginning, draw a line through your name and across the page. In the column marked MOST, place a check mark () by the names of the _____ men with whom you are most familiar, that is, whom you know best. In the column marked LEAST, place a check mark () by the names of the ____ men whom you know least well.

NAME	MOST	LEAST
1.		
2.		
3.	•	
. 4.		
5.	•	
6. _\		
7.	. , e	
8.		
9.		
10. ~		8
11.		
12.		
13	. 5	
14.		خ
15.		,
16.		
17.		
18.		_
19.		
20.		
21.	** 1 * 1 * 2 * 2 * 2 * 2 * 2 * 2 * 2 * 2	
22.		
23		
	•	
33.		,
34.		
35.		
36.		
37.	•	
38.		
39.		
40.		<u> </u>



Friendship Rating

Before beginning, draw a line through your name and across the page. In the column marked MOST place a check mark (\checkmark) by the names of the ____ men whom you would most like to have as close friends. In the column marked LEAST, place a check mark (\checkmark) by the names of the ____ men whom you would least like to have as close friends.

	<u></u>			7
· ·	NAME	14	MOST	LEAST
1	4			
2.			•	
3.			. •	
4.	4.			
5.				•
_6			gra	-
			. 0	
36.			. :	*
37.			·	120
38.				
39.		7		
40.	•			

'Ability to Succeed in Training

Before beginning, draw a line through your name and across the page. In the column marked MOST, place a check mark () by the names of the _____ men who you think have the most ability to succeed in an Army technical training course such as this one. In the column marked LEAST, place a check mark () by the names of the _____ men who you think have the least ability to succeed in a technical training course. Do not place any check marks in the columns by your own name, but be sure to complete the item at the bottom of the page.

	NAME		1		MOS	T	LEAST
1;							
2.	W			-			
3. ·			4.				
4.							
5					1		_
<u>- 6:</u>			काचारवास्त्र । च ४		garana ing manganan		
36.							*
37.		•					
38.							
39.	بنا -	7	-				•
							

How would you rate yourself with reference to other members of the class on ability to succeed in training?

	In the top quarter of the class	In the next to highest quarte
	In the next to lowest quarter	In the lowest quarter



Leadership Potential

Before beginning, draw a line through your name and across the page. In the column marked MOST, place a check mark () by the names of the _____ men who you think have the greatest potential for being leaders either in or out of the Army. In the column marked LEAST, place a check mark () by the names of the ____ men who you think have the least potential for becoming leaders. Do not rate yourself, but be sure to complete the item at the bottom of this page.

	NAME	MOST	LEAST
1.			•
2.		 	
3.		 	
5		 	·
	<u> </u>		. 1
39.	•		
40.			

How would you rate yourself with reference to our members of the class on leadership potential?

In the top quarter of the class	In the next to highest quarter
In the next to lowest quarter	In the lowest quarter

Desire to Succeed in Training

Before beginning, draw a line through your name and across the page. In the column marked MOST, place a check mark () by the names of the men who you think have the greatest desire to succeed in this course of training. In the column marked LEAST, place a check mark () by the names of the men who you think have the least desire to succeed in this course. Do not place any meck marks in the columns by your own name, but be sure to complete the item at the bottom of the page.

NAME	MOST	LEAST
1.		
2		
_3		
4.		
3	•	
39.		
40.		1

How would you rate vourseli with reference to other members of the class on desire to succeed in training?

In the top quarter of the class	In the next to highest quarter
In the next to lowest quarter	In the lowest quarter



Appendix D

STUDENT ATTITUDE SURVEY

This short questionnaire is being given in an effort to find out how students feel about the Army and the job for which they are being trained. Please answer all items truthfully. Your answers will not be used for any purpose except to gain information on student attitudes. They will not affect your status in any way here at the Air Defense School.

If you have any questions, raise your hand and one of the monitors will come to you. If you have no questions now, write your name and the date at the top of the questionnaire and begin.

		DATE
INS	TRUCTIO	ONS FOR ITEMS 1 - 11:
to c	ng with fi hoose th	of the following items the beginning of a sentence will be presented we statements that could be used to complete the sentence. You are e ending that best describes the way you feel, and mark an "X" in front of it.
1.	My inte	rest in electronics is:
	1.	Very high; I am seriously considering making electronics my life-time career.
	2.	High; I enjoy learning electronics and may or may not choose it as a career.
	3.	Moderate; About the same as most men my age.
	4.	Low; I find electronics pretty dull and would not care for a career in the field.
	5.	Very low; I have no interest in electronics and definitely will not make it my career.
2.	I believe	that failing this course would:
	1.	Have a very bad effect on me the rest of my life.
	2.	Have a bad effect on me, but not really hurt my future.
	3.	Probably not have any very serious effect on me.
	,4.	Probably not affect my life at all.
	5.	Probably work to my advantage rather than hurt me.



ა.	1 expect	to:
	1.	Succeed in this course without too much difficulty.
	2.	Succeed in this course, but it will not be easy.
	3.	Succeed, but it will be difficult for me and I may fail.
	4.	Probably fail, but I do have a chance to pass.
	5.	Fail, and feel that there is very little chance that I could pass.
4.	If I were	e choosing my Army job again, I:
	1.	Would definitely choose the MOS for which I am now being trained.
-	2.	Would very likely choose this MOS.
	3.	Would probably consider this MOS, but would consider a lot of different jobs, too.
	4.	Doubt if this MOS would be among my choices.
•	5.	Would definitely not consider this MOS as a choice.
5.	I really:	
	•	Want to succeed in this course no matter how hard I have to work to do so.
	2 .	Want to succeed in this course, and will put out a reasonable amount of effort.
	3.	Would like to succeed in this course, but won't be too disappointed if I am relieved.
•	4.	Wouldn't mind if I were relieved from this course.
		Would like to be relieved from this course.
6.		ement which best describes my future career plans is:
		I feel pretty sure that I will choose a career in the Army.
	2.	I seriously consider the Army, along with a few other career possibilities.
	3.	I have mo definite career plans at all.
	4.	I don't think it likely that I will choose an Army career.
	5.	I won't choose a career in the Army.
7.	With the	kind of experience and background I have had, this course should be:
	1.	Very easy for me.
	2.	Relatively easy for me.
	3.	Neither real easy nor real difficult for me.
	4.	Kind of difficult for me.
	5.	Very difficult for me.



ō.	Inrougn	out my future, I feel that the material I will learn in this course will
•	1.	Be extremely important in my life work, or as a hobby.
	2.	Be important in my life work, or hobby.
	3.	Be of some value to me in my life work or hobby.
	4.	Be of very little, if any, use to me in my life work or as a hobby.
	5.	Most likely not be of any use to me.
9.	In my pa	st experience, I:
	1.	Have greatly enjoyed going to school.
	2.	Usually enjoyed school.
	3.	Neither particularly liked nor disliked school.
	4.	Generally did not enjoy school.
	5.	Cared very little for going to school.
10.	I feel tha	it:
	51.	This training course will be of more future value to me than any other which I could have received in the Army.
	2 .	This training course will be of future value, but there are many Army training courses which would have been just as good.
	 3.	There are many Army training courses which would have been of more value to me in my future.
	4.	Almost any other training would have been more valuable.
,	5 <i>.</i>	There is probably no Army training which would be of much help to me in my future.
11.	Have you	ever built a radio or amplifier or other electronic equipment?
	<u>·</u> 1.	Yes, more than once.
	2.	Yes, once.
	3.	No, but I would enjoy doing so.
		No.
12.	Army job which of	ou will wild a list of jobs which are representative of the kinds of os. If you were coming into the Army, knowing what you know now, the jobs below would you consider? Put an "X" in one box in front ob to show how you feel about that particular job.
•	Definitely Consider	
		Heavy field artillery crewman

Definitely Consider	Can't Decide	Would Not Consider	
			Ground-to-ground missile crewman
	, · ·		Radar repairman
			Field radio repairman
		* 🖶	Electrical appliance repairman
			Aircraft armament repairman
· ·	` <u> </u>		Welder-blacksmith-metal body repairman
			Dental or medical assistant
			Building trades worker
			Chemical warfare specialist
•		Ċ.	Supply and warehouse specialist
			Wheel vehicle mechanic
	·		Driver (truck and auto)
			Aircraft mechanic
			Clerk-typist
			Draftsman
			Surveyor
			Printer
			Photographer
			Military policeman
			Communications center operator



13. Put an "X" in one box in front of each school subject, to show your interest in that subject while in high school or college.

•	•	Did Not Take	•
· High	Low	This Subject	
Interest	Interest	In School	
		· 🙀 🔠	English
			Math
			Foreign Languages
			Physics or Chemistry
*-			History
			Auto Mechanics Shop
			Music
			Electrical Shop
		·	

Questionnaire Scoring

For the first 11 items, the score given was the number of the alternative chosen for each item. In Item 12, "Radar Repairman" was the only job that figured in the final scoring. "Definitely Consider" was given a score of 1, "Can't Decide" was given a score of 2, and "Would Not Consider" was given a score of 3. In Item 13, only "Math," "Physics or Chemistry," and "Electrical Ship" were scored. On these courses "High Interest" was scored as 1, "Low Interest" was scored as 3, and "Did Not Take This Subject in School" was scored as 2.

In addition, a score was given for the self-rating of "Desire to Succeed in Training" from the peer ratings. The score given was the quarter of the class in which the student placed himself. As is obvious from the scoring, lower scores were considered as indigative of higher motivation.



Onclassified	•
Security Claunification	<u> </u>
• · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	CONTROL DATA - R & D
(Sacurity Classification of title, body of abstract and in	dexing annotation must be entered when the overall report is classified 2s. REPORT SECURITY CLASSIFICATION
Human Resources Research Office	Unclassified
The George Washington University	2b. GROUP
Alexandria, Virginia 22314	28. GROUP
3. ACPORT TITLE	
J. MEPORY TITLE	
THE EFFECTS OF GROUP COMPETITION UPO	N STUDENT PERFORMANCE
	. Ologan I alia olaminoa
4. OESCRIPTIVE NOTES (Type of report and inclusive deten)	<u> </u>
Technical Report	
S. AUTHOR(S) (First name, middle tnitial, fast name)	
or working (to the limited limited, the limited)	
Albert L. Kubala and Harold E. Chris	tensen
7	•
& REPORT DATE	78. TOTAL NO. OF PAGES 75. NO. OF REFS
June 1968	44 ° 10
SE CONTRACT OR GRANT NO.	98, ORIGINATOR'S REPORT NUMBER(S)
DA 44-188-ARO-2	m
b. PROJECT NO / 2J024701A712 Of	Technical Report 68-7
COURTE OF	
	9b. ОТНЕЙ REPORT HO.(S) (Any other numbers that may be assign this report)
d.	
10. DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT	
This document has been approved for	public release and sale;
its distribution is unlimited.	
11 SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES	12. BPONSORING MILITARY ACTIVITY
	Office, Chief of Research and Develop
• •	Department of the Army
	Washington, D.C. 20310
13 ABSTRACT	
T	
	p competition is effective in improving
	o experimental classes were divided into
	mean aptitude. Each group competed with
	essive two-week intervals. The winner
	ailed the smallest percentage of regularly
	the period. Low-cost and recognition-
	rs of winning groups. Peer ratings and
	istered before the first examination,
and again after four weeks. The peer	r rating on desire to succeed and the
	ring motivation, seemed to be valid pre-
dictors of success Group competition	on did appear to be an effective means of
	e lower aptitude men. The competition
grouping was found to influence frier	
	•
	•
	•
	•
	•
1	
DD / FORM 1473	Unclassified
1 400 10 100	Security Classification
1	Security L. Lassification

Unclassified

Security Classif		_					-	1			
	KEY WORDS					ROLE WT		ROLE ' WT		LINK C	
Attitude Measu Attrition in T Group Competit	raining				, ,	i i	9				
Montantin-							P) .				
Technical Trai	ning					'					
reconical Trai	ning				•		·		~		
									•		

Unclassified

Security Classification

DISTRIBUTION LIST

DISTRIBLE

2 DIS CAND PARAPTHER (PPEGE)

1 CHE OATA ATTA COC LIE BE
1 CHE OATA ATTA COC LIE BE
2 DIS SEED, AMEN. C.C. 7000.

2 SE 1 : (FECH 1900 PACILITY ATTA NAME ART 3-MA-C.
2 CHE OATA CHE OATA CHE ATTA CHE OATA CHE O

2 CG FLI ANTI-RIS WARFARE ING CIR CAM MECK VA BEACH
2 CO FLI SCARR SCH 467 MEST
COP CIT SCARR SCH 467 MEST AND SCH COP CASS
COP COP WAS ATTR HEAP PERS : THE BE COP CASS
COP COP WAS ATTR HEAP PERS : THE BE COP CASS
COP COP WAS ATTR HEAP PERS : THE BE COP CASS
COP COP CARR SCH 467 MEST AND SCH COP CASS
COP COP COP CARR SCH 467 MEST AND SCH COP CASS
COP COP CARR SCH 467 MEST AND SCH COP CASS
COP COP CARR SCH AND SCH COP CASS
COP CARR SCH COP

INST FOR DEF ARLS RES - ENGINE SUPPORT CLY WASHINGTON MAGNESS RIKEMEN COPPARY CLIVER CITY CALLY MAGNESS RIKEMEN COPPARY CLIVER CITY CALLY DESCRIPTION OF A CONTROL OF THE C I BRIGHAM YOUNG U LIR SER SECT I U OF LOUISVILLE LIB BELKMAM CAMPUS





00 100

Director
Associate Director

Assistant Director for Openhings Assistant Director for Picheino Assistant Director for Hoponing Bullianes Addistribute:

RESEARCH DIVISIONS

Huming Division No. 1 (System Operations 30) North Washington Street Alexandria, Virginia 22314.

HumRRO Division No. 2 (Armor) Fort Knox, Kentucky 40121

HumRRO Division No. 3 (Recruit Training)
Post Office Box 5787
Presidio of Monterey, California 93940

HumRRO Division No. 4 (Infantry)
Post Office Box 2006
Fort Benning, Georgia 31905

HumRRO Division No. 5 (Air Defense)
Post Office Box 6021
Fort Bliss, Texas 79916

HumRRO Division No. 6 (Aviation)
Post Office Box 428
Fort Rucker, Alabama 36360

HumiRRO Division No. 7 (Language and Area Training) 300 North Washington Street Alexandria, Virginia 22314 Participant Control

De Morman Wallard III Director of the search Dr. Howard H. McFarin Director of the search

Dr. T. Owen Jacobs Director of Research

Dr. Robert D. Buldwijn Director of Research

Dr. Wollace W. Prophet

Dr. Arthur J. Hoefia Director of Research